

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians  
Appropriations and Finance Committee  
Minutes  
January 7, 2009  
Rm 312

Meeting called to Order: 1:44 p.m.

Roll Call: Committee Person Yellowbank, Committee Chairman Gerald V. Chingwa

Absent: Committee Person Shirley Oldman.

Guests and Staff Present: Chief Financial Officer Valerie Tweedie (CFO),  
Legislative Leader Beatrice A. Law, Legislative Services Attorney Donna L. Budnick

Agenda:

Motion to adopt Agenda with additions by Committee Person Alice Yellowbank.  
Second by Committee Person Gerald V. Chingwa. Motion Passes.

Minutes:

Approval of the Minutes for December 12, 2008. Motion to approve with  
corrections by Committee Person Alice Yellowbank. Second by Committee  
Chairperson Gerald V. Chingwa. Motion Passes.

Public Comment pens at 2:32 p.m.:

Old Business:

Discussion: CFO provided expense numbers from 2007-2008 to show high costs  
of snow plowing service and transportation costs for language classes for Elders.  
CFO will forward e-mail to Carla McFall regarding language class estimated cost.

Discussion: FY2010 budget: there is a Tribal wide budget on flash drive available  
for Tribal Council. Review savings on Executive side. Continued savings  
discussion from guests that include:

May need to repeal Health Board. The Health Board is now irrelevant as it has  
outlasted initial purpose. All department duties are now taken over by staff.

May need to repeal Housing Committee. The Housing Committee is now  
irrelevant as it has outlasted initial purpose. All department duties are now taken  
over by staff.

May need to repeal Education Board and replace with an appeals board. All  
department duties are now taken over by staff.

Prosecutor Matt Lesky requests that we disregard FY 2009 budget reduction and added fixed budget for FY 2010. He will provide Tribal Council an update on budget.

FY2009 Executive budgets written report by CFO states what costs and savings are, and by the end of this month a total reorganization plan on government programs will be available. CFO also states if we haven't seen good numbers by 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter from casino, there will be no Cost of Living Allowance increases for FY 2009 across the board and must include Judiciary, Legislative et al.

Discussion regarding the review of Old Business for regarding revisions of statutes to repeal the Health board and revise the Education Board to an Appeals Board. The Appropriations and Finance Committee recommends that the Tribal Council review the LTBB Department Commissions, Boards and Committees to update them so they meet FY2010 requirements. The discussion suggests the elimination of the Health Board; revise the Economic Development Commission and replace with a tribally chartered corporation. The chartered corporation board could become the body to work with revenue generating economic development projects. The Economic Development Commission would work as a community development board rather than work with revenue generating enterprises.

Discussion: Tribal Council should revisit ICWA statute and change the committee to 3 people and meet quarterly.

Discussion: How to reduce expenses by managing our departments better with fewer board members and slimmer budgets.

Public Comment opened at 2:32 p.m.:

Legislative Leader Beatrice Law concerned about budget and need for Per Cap statement for FY2009 and that she met with Tribal Chairman to discuss FY2009 budget and to ask for a written report on the FY2009 budget. The Legislative Leader also reported that the casino has done a lot to reduce expenses.

Public Comment closed at 2:40 p.m.

The Appropriations and Finance Committee has reviewed the Per Capita Distribution payments for FY2009. We acknowledge the possibility of reduced or no Per Capita payments in FY2009. the Per Capita payments are growing with each enrollment and the Casino EBITDA is failing to meet its projections.

New Business:

Land and Reservation Committee Chairman Melvin L. Kiogima asked for a closed session today regarding land.

General Counsel James Bransky, Legal Council to the Executive was in attendance to report on a legal issue and requested a closed session.

General Discussion:

Motion by Committee Person Alice Yellowbank to go into closed session for legal issue at 3:27 p.m. Second by Committee Chairman Gerald V. Chingwa. Motion passes.

General Counsel James Bransky presided over report and discussions.

Motion by Committee Person Alice Yellowbank to go out of closed session at 4:00 p.m. Second by Committee Chairperson Gerald V. Chingwa. Motion passes.

Recess called at 4:01 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 4:16 p.m.

Motion by Committee Chairperson Gerald V. Chingwa to go into closed session at 4:17 p.m. for land issue. Second by Committee Person Alice Yellowbank. Motion passes.

Land and Reservation Committee chairman Melvin L. Kiogima presided over discussion and answers.

Motion by Committee Person Alice Yellowbank to go out of closed session at 4:46 p.m. Second by Committee Chairperson Gerald V. Chingwa. Motion passes.

The land issue is forwarded to Tribal Council.

Continued with general discussion with questions and comments for CFO. Questions from Committee Chairperson regarding the balance in Prior Period Funds as we had \$2.5 million and where did the funds go? CFO answers that theoretically its still there. Probably about \$1 million in cash and using to pay current needs.

In FY2008 we were supposed to receive \$13.6 million from casino and got \$5 million and \$4.5 million from investments. The CFO reported that casino will meet all debt obligations through February.

Next Meeting date:

The next scheduled Appropriations and Finance Committee meeting is January 21 2009 at the Natural Resource Department conference room.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. by Committee Person Alice Yellowbank. Second by Committee Chairperson Gerald V. Chingwa. Motion passes.